(c) No decision has been taken as yet.

Approval for equity in Gujarat State Petronet Limited Company

2560. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) the number of proposals received by the Central Government for FIPB approval to invest in equity of Gujarat State Petronet Limited Company of Gujarat;

(b) the number of proposals which have been approved and the number of proposals which have been rejected or left pending and with reasons thereof;

(c) the number of applications received from Gujarat State Petronet Limited or Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited for appointment of competent authority under Petroleum and Mineral Pipeline Act;

(d) the number of applications which have been approved;

(e) the number of applications which have been rejected and with reasons thereof; and

(f) the number of proposals which are pending and since how long?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of certain constitutional and legal implications, proposal was not agreed to.

(c) and (d) Only two (02) number of applications for appointment of competent authority under Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 were received from Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited, which have already been approved by the Government.

(e) Nil.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

Use of LPG in Rural Areas

†2561. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to promote the use of LPG in rural areas;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of gas connections targeted to be provided in the rural areas by the end of year 2001, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) At present, LPG connections are released on demand throughout the country in existing markets. A target of release of 1.3 crores new LPG connections throughout the country including rural areas during the current calendar year has been fixed up by the Government. Further to increase the LPG distribution network, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have planned to set up more than 1200 LPG distributorships exclusively in rural areas under various Marketing Plans.

Assistance from foreign company in exploration of oil and gas

2562. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether off shore oil and gas discovery has been made with the help of foreign private company in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations of these oil and gas fields;

(c) by when these oil and gas fields will be developed for exploration; and

(d) what is the potential of these oil and gas fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Following oil and gas discoveries have been made by foreign private company, namely Cairn Energy India Pvt. Ltd., as operator.

Type of discovery	Name of discovery	Name of block	Location	Date of discovery
Gas	Ravva Satellite Gas	Ravva Contract area	East Coast Offshore	May, 1999
Gas	Laxmi	CB-OS/2	Gulf of Cambay	May, 2000
Oil and Gas	Ambe	CB-OS/2	Gulf of Cambay	Nov., 2000
Oil and Gas	Gouri	CB-OS/2	Gulf of Cambay	Dec., 2000
Oil	Parvati	CB-OS/2	Gulf of Cambay	Jan., 2001
Gas	Annapurna	KG-DWN-98/2	East Coast Offshore	June, 2001